

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Examiner's April 5, 2004 Office Action (Paper No. 3.) The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his thorough examination of the present application.

Response to Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claim 1 because that claim, as originally filed, included one or more typographical errors. Claim 1 has been amended to overcome this objection.

Response to Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1,2 and 4-16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mora et al. (US 6,161,113) in view of Applicants' Description of the Related Art. Claim 1 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Dependent claims 2 through 16 are patentable at least because they depend from proper independent claim 1, as amended. (MPEP 2143.03.)

More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to additionally recite the following aspects of the Applicants' invention:

automatically notifying the one member that the issue document has become dated after a first specified amount of time;
and

automatically archiving or deleting the issue document a second specified amount of time after the one member was notified that the issue document has become dated.

Support for these aspects of the Applicants' invention is found at least on page 15 of the Applicants' specification.

Applicants have thoroughly reviewed Mora et al. and do not believe that these aspects of claim 1, as amended, are taught or suggested by the prior art – independently by Mora or additionally in view of the Applicants' Description of the Related Art.

Applicants have added new claims 17 and 18 which Applicants respectfully contend recite additional aspects of Applicants' claimed invention that are not found in the prior art.

Summary

Applicants have made a genuine effort to respond to the Examiner's objections and rejections in advancing the prosecution of this case. Applicants believe all formal and substantive requirements for patentability have been met and that this case is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

An additional fee of \$110.00 is believed to be due for payment of the Petition fee. This fee, as well as any additional fees or credits, should be applied to Deposit Account 06-1510 (Ford Global Technologies, Inc.). A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to discuss prompt resolution of any remaining issues necessary to place this case in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

SUSAN DAY ET AL.

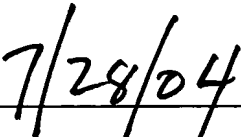
By


John S. Le Roy

Reg. No. 48,158

Attorney/Agent for Applicant

Date:



BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351